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Title: Need to review the decision to run North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong under public-private partnership.

SHRI KIREN RIJIU (ARUNACHAL WEST): Sir, North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS), Shillong came into existence under the NDA Government with the idea of providing advanced healthcare facilities, especially to the economically backward people of North-East India. But the present Government is working to sell it off to private parties, e.g., M/s. Frontier Lifeline, Chennai.

The Department of Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery, in spite of having full facilities is being handed over to a private nursing home in Chennai under the guise of private-public partnership. A memorandum of agreement is being signed at a whopping cost of about Rs.20 crore at the expense of Government exchequer. The idea behind this is to facilitate business of the concerned private hospital in Chennai. The only thing lacking here is supporting technicians, who can easily be deputed from Government institutes like AIIMS. The money used for private-public partnership can be utilized to provide expensive procedures like angioplasty and bypass surgeries free of cost. Obviously, the question of subsidized care does not arise with this public-private partnership.

I, therefore, strongly urge the Prime minister to intervene in the matter and ask the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to help in the development of NEIGRIHMS and work for the poor people of the North-East.